

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-15, 29 and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Staples et al.'845 (U.S. Patent No. 5,889,845). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

Pursuant to the telephonic interview of August 15, 2002, Applicant respectfully resubmits arguments not addressed in the Advisory Action of August 5, 2002. These arguments were previously submitted in the Request for Reconsideration dated July 18, 2002.

Claims 1, 15 and 29 are directed to a communication arrangement in which a communication apparatus is connectable to a communication network. The communication apparatus is notified of identification information of a calling party, and sets the communication network to activate call forwarding such that incoming call for the communication apparatus is forwarded to the calling party of the received identification information. The communication network thereafter performs the call forwarding.

On the contrary, Staples shows a call forwarding process to forward calls from a corporate office to a remote location, e.g., home, through a virtual connection. In Staples, a user via a remote communication device (e.g., computer, laptop, etc.) calls a virtual presence server, via a communication network (e.g., PSTN), to establish a virtual connection therebetween and to initiate call forwarding of calls directed to the user at the Office to the remote location via the established virtual connection. Thereafter, calls directed to the user at the Office are forwarded to the remote location by the virtual presence server via the established connection.

As claimed, the communication apparatus performs forwarding setup to a communication network such that an incoming call for the communication apparatus itself is forwarded to a calling party of identification information notified from the communication network. That is, the communication apparatus sets the communication network to forward calls for or directed to the communication itself to another location. In contrast, the virtual presence server of Staples does not set call forwarding to have calls for the server itself forwarded.

Huh?

Accordingly, claims 1, 15 and 29 and the claims dependent therefrom are patentably distinguishable over the cited reference.

Claim 30 is directed to a communication apparatus which receives information designating a forwarded-to site via communication network and notifies the communication network of the information such that an incoming call to the communication apparatus is forwarded to the forwarded-to site (designated by the received information) by the communication network.

For similar reasons as discussed above for claims 1, 15 and 29, Staples does not disclose or suggest the communication apparatus of claim 30.

Accordingly, claim 30 is also believed to be distinguishable over the cited reference.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims and allowance of this application.

No!

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4534. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

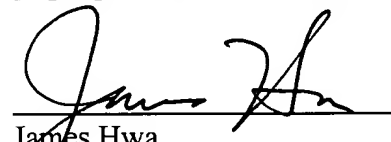
In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4534. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

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